

Panel on Education
List of outstanding items for discussion

(position as at 8 February 2017)

Proposed timing
for discussion

Legislative proposals

1. A Member's Bill to amend the University of Hong Kong Ordinance

Item proposed by Hon IP Kin-yuen.

To be
confirmed

2. A Member's Bill on special education needs

Item proposed by Hon Dennis KWOK to discuss a Member's Bill jointly prepared by him and Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG.

To be
confirmed

School projects

3. 8012EE – Redevelopment of Island School at 20 Borrett Road, Mid-Levels

The proposed project is for the construction of a 42-classroom secondary school premises for in-situ redevelopment of Island School. The Administration plans to consult the Panel on the proposal before its submission to Public Works Subcommittee and Finance Committee.

2nd quarter of
2017

4. 3352EP – A 30-classroom primary school at Tonkin Street, Cheung Sha Wan

The proposed project is for the construction of a 30-classroom primary school at Tonkin Street, Cheung Sha Wan for the reprovisioning of Pak Tin Catholic Primary School at Sham Shui Po. The Administration plans to consult the Panel on the proposal before its submission to Public Works Subcommittee and Finance Committee.

2nd quarter of
2017

Proposed timing
for discussion

Post-secondary education

5. Review of the policy on admission of students under the non-Joint University Programmes Admission System

Item proposed by Hon IP Kin-yuen. The subject was last discussed on 10 February 2014.

2nd quarter of
2017

6. Issues related to the University Grants Committee ("UGC")-funded sector in respect of -
(a) grievance procedures, the appointment and extension of appointment of teaching staff in UGC-funded institutions; and
(b) policy on provision of funding and subsidy for UGC-funded institutions

Hon IP Kin-yuen proposed to discuss grievance procedures of UGC-funded institutions.

To be
confirmed

Dr Hon Helena WONG proposed to discuss the appointment and extension of appointment of teaching staff in UGC-funded institutions, and review of the policy on provision of funding for UGC-funded institutions and subsidy for non-local students attending UGC-funded post-graduate research programmes.

Secondary and primary education

7. Review on the teaching of Chinese History subject in secondary schools

Item proposed by Hon IP Kin-yuen, Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG, Hon Mrs Regina IP, Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan and Hon LAM Cheuk-ting. Concerns were raised about the curriculum content of the Chinese History subject, the decline of students enrolling in the subject at senior secondary level, and teaching of the subject as an independent subject at junior secondary level.

1st quarter of
2017

Proposed timing
for discussion

8. Comprehensive review of the New Senior Secondary curriculum

Item proposed by Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung, Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG, Hon Michael TIEN, Hon CHAN Chi-chuen and Hon Mrs Regina IP. Concerns were raised about:

1st quarter of
2017

- (a) the Liberal Studies subject (to be discussed on 13 February 2017);
- (b) strengthening the teaching of Chinese literary classics and culture; and
- (c) curriculum development of Business, Accounting and Financial Studies subject.

Issues related to the subject were discussed on 8 June and 15 July 2015.

9. Progress on the implementation of life planning education and issues related to development pathways of secondary school leavers

Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan proposed to discuss:

1st quarter of
2017

- (a) the progress on the implementation of life planning education ("LPE");
- (b) professional training and certification for teachers implementing LPE; and
- (c) setting up information platform for life planning and vocational education.

Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan proposed to discuss issues related to development pathways of secondary school leavers.

The subject on life planning education was last discussed on 11 January 2016.

Proposed timing
for discussion

- 10. Issues related to school premises and facilities:**
(a) primary schools operating in matchbox-style and sub-standard premises; and
(b) installation of air-conditioning systems for aided schools

Hon IP Kin-yuen proposed to discuss the installation of air-conditioning systems for aided schools.

1st quarter of
2017

At the meeting on 22 March 2016, the Panel met with representatives of the school sector and the Administration to discuss issues related to reprovisioning of sub-standard premises. The Panel, accompanied by the Under Secretary for Education, paid a visit to three primary schools accommodated in matchbox-style school premises in April 2016.

To follow up the school visit and provide a forum for the Administration and the school sector to explore short-, mid- and long-term measures, the Panel Chairman convened two closed meetings in mid-May and July 2016, at which good progress was made. Members considered that the Panel should continue to follow up the matter and handle the problems faced by other sub-standard school premises in stages.

The Administration proposed to report on the arrangements and progress of measures on improvement of facilities for matchbox-style school premises on 13 February 2017.

- 11. Planning for the provision of primary and secondary school places in the light of student population**

Item proposed by Hon IP Kin-yuen.

2nd quarter of
2017

Issues related to the provision and allocation of school places were discussed at the meetings on 18 March, 12 May and 16 July 2014 when the Panel discussed the measures to address issues arising from the drop in secondary student population and issues related to increasing the number of students allocated to each Primary One class.

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for discussion |
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| <p>12. Remuneration for contract teachers in primary and secondary schools</p> <p>Item proposed by Hon IP Kin-yuen.</p> <p>Issues related to contract teachers were last discussed at the meeting on 12 January 2015 when the Panel discussed the employment opportunities for young teachers.</p> | <p>2nd quarter of
2017</p> |
| <p>13. Staff establishment and salary structure in primary schools</p> <p>At the meeting on 11 April 2016, the Panel passed a motion urging the Administration to expeditiously conduct a review on the existing arrangements regarding staff establishment and salary structure in primary schools. In its written response, the Administration advised that as staff establishment and salary structure of primary schools were complex matters involving a wide scope of issues, it would require time to deliberate the subject. At the meeting on 28 October 2016, Hon IP Kin-yuen proposed to follow up the subject.</p> | <p>2nd quarter of
2017</p> |
| <p>14. Whole-day primary schooling and homework policy in primary schools</p> <p>Hon Michael TIEN and Hon Claudia MO proposed to discuss the implementation of whole-day primary schooling and homework policy in primary schools.</p> | <p>To be
confirmed</p> |
| <p>15. School-based After-school Learning and Support Programmes</p> <p>Hon Michael TIEN proposed to discuss School-based After-school Learning and Support Programmes.</p> | <p>To be
confirmed</p> |
| <p>16. Promotion of sports and art education in schools and provision of diversified curricula in aided secondary schools</p> <p>Hon Michael TIEN proposed to discuss the promotion of sports and art education in schools. Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan proposed to discuss the provision of diversified curricula in aided secondary schools.</p> | <p>To be
confirmed</p> |

Proposed timing
for discussion

17. Policy on promotion of reading and Extensive Reading Scheme in primary and secondary schools

Hon Michael TIEN and Hon IP Kin-yuen proposed to discuss the policy on promotion of reading and the Extensive Reading Scheme in primary and secondary schools respectively.

To be
confirmed

18. Review on the policy for Direct Subsidy Scheme schools

Item proposed by Hon Michael TIEN, Dr Hon Helena WONG, Hon IP Kin-yuen and Hon LAM Cheuk-ting. The subject was last discussed on 13 January 2014.

To be
confirmed

19. Handling bullying and sexual harassment in schools

Item proposed by Dr Helena WONG.

To be
confirmed

20. Discussion of controversial topics in schools

Item proposed by Hon Michael TIEN and Hon CHAN Chi-chuen. They were concerned about the policy and guidelines, if any, in respect of the discussion of controversial topics, such as the notion of Hong Kong's secession from China, in schools.

To be
confirmed

Others

21. Support for students with special educational needs ("SEN")

Item proposed by Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki. Dr KWOK was concerned that the recommendations made by the Subcommittee on Integrated Education appointed by the Panel during the last term had not been fully implemented by the Administration. He proposed discussion on the formulation of policies and strategies for supporting SEN students.

2nd quarter of
2017

The Administration plans to brief the Panel on the progress of the 3-year Pilot Project on Special Educational Needs Coordinators (SENCOs) in the second quarter of 2017.

Proposed timing
for discussion

The Project commenced in 2015-2016 school year.

22. Teaching and non-teaching manpower of special schools

Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG was concerned about the policy on provision of native-speaking English teachers ("NETs") in special schools for children with intellectual disability and the Administration's follow-up action in the light of the judgement regarding the Education Bureau's non-provision of a NET for a special school for children with intellectual disability.

To be
confirmed

Hon IP Kin-yuen considered that the Panel should discuss the review of social worker establishment in special schools.

23. Education services and support for ethnic minorities

Hon IP Kin-yuen proposed to discuss the subject of education for ethnic minorities. Hon Michael TIEN proposed discussion on the support for non-Chinese speaking students under the free kindergarten education policy.

2nd quarter of
2017

As a follow-up to the discussion on 8 June 2015, the Administration has planned to update the Panel the progress on supporting Chinese learning and teaching for non-Chinese speaking students in the second quarter of 2017.

24. Issues related to the implementation of free kindergarten education policy

Item proposed by Hon IP Kin-yuen, Hon Tanya CHAN and Dr Hon Helena WONG.

To be
confirmed

Hon IP Kin-yuen was concerned about various issues related to the implementation of free kindergarten education policy, including salary structure of kindergarten teachers, the tide-over grant covering a two-year period for kindergartens with a large number of long-serving teachers, amount of subsidy to kindergartens, and tuition fees and miscellaneous charges of kindergartens.

Proposed timing
for discussion

Dr Hon Helena WONG proposed discussion on the Government's provision of subsidy for and planning of whole-day and long whole-day kindergartens.

At the meeting on 14 November 2016, the Administration briefed the Panel on the latest development in migration to free quality kindergarten education and sought members' views on the proposal to provide a one-off start-up grant to kindergartens joining the Free Quality Kindergarten Education Scheme.

Hon IP Kin-yuen considered that the Panel should discuss the support for SEN students in kindergartens.

25. Issued related to information technology education

Hon Charles MOK proposed to discuss issues related to information technology education, including support for implementing e-learning and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics ("STEM") education, nurturing information technology talents and Internet Learning Support Programme ("ILSP"). The subject of promotion of STEM education was discussed at the meeting on 14 November 2016.

To be
confirmed

At its meeting on 9 June 2014 and 16 February 2016, the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting ("ITB Panel") had discussed issues related to nurturing information technology talents and Internet Learning Support Programme respectively when the Administration consulted ITB Panel on the funding proposal to implement the Enriched IT Programme in secondary schools and the proposal to extend ILSP.

26. Governance of UGC-funded institutions

Hon Tanya CHAN proposed to review the governing legislation of individual UGC-funded institutions that the Chief Executive was the ex-officio Chancellor of these institutions. Hon IP Kin-yuen proposed to discuss issues related to governance of post-secondary institutions.

To be
confirmed

Proposed timing
for discussion

27. Safety of drinking water in schools and measures to follow up the incidents of excessive lead found in the drinking water of certain schools

Item proposed by Dr Hon Helena WONG.

To be
confirmed

Issues related to the incidents of lead in the drinking water were discussed by Panel on Housing on 22 July 2015, Panel on Health Services on 24 August 2015, Panel on Welfare Services on 9 November 2015, and House Committee on 1 September and 8 October 2015.

At the special meeting of the House Committee on 11 July 2016, the Administration had briefed members on the latest situation of the incident of lead in drinking water, and the follow-up actions taken by the Administration in response to the Report of the Commission of Inquiry into Excess Lead Found in Drinking Water.

Council Business Division 4
Legislative Council Secretariat
8 February 2017